

13TH SEPTEMBER IS RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY and the theme this year is: **"The Changing Faces of Britain and Ireland"**. This is an annual day we are invited to pray and are encouraged to cut racial tension and build community relations. In a global world where migration is massive, people often find themselves in different countries for different reasons. No matter what national constitutions and human rights proclaim in practise ,in nearly all countries, there exists racial injustice. Be honest with ourselves. It is reflected in our music, our jokes, we see it reported every day. We used to believe it only existed in countries like South Africa but more and more it surfaces in all our countries. We begin by looking at ourselves and our attitudes.....



Prayer for racial justice

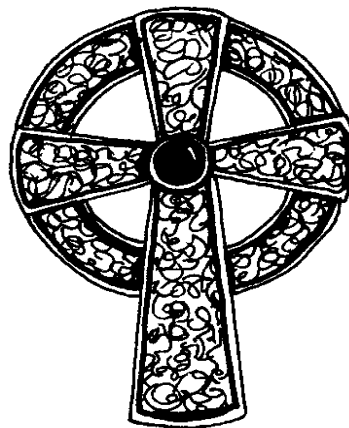
Dear God, today we stand to pray not just for ourselves, but for the world and its communities.

- We pray for those caught up in wars and gang violence, especially the innocent, and hope that you would intervene and bring peace and safety.
- We pray for families separated by continents, who may spend yet another year without their beloved husband, son, nephew, daughter, mother.
- We pray for the leaders of the United Nations, that they would lead in ways uncorrupted by power and self interest so that peace would come more quickly to our world.
- As you lead us through the changing seasons, may we remember places facing desertification, droughts, floods. Help us to think seriously about our contribution in doing what we can to help reduce climate change.
- We pray that every child can be warm, safe and fed and help us to fight child poverty, both in our society and in the world. We pray for all kinds of injustice, that justice will be worked for.

Lord, let us be part of your body that reaches out to others. Glorify your name through us as you help us make a difference. The problems seem so big and we are so small. Lord, remind us that we are made stronger when we join with others so help us to do that. Our God, father, mother, sister, brother, all our faces are seen across the world.

Across this land, help us to value and enjoy the diversity in your creation and in the human family. Help us to embrace one another and to allow your Spirit to transform and enrich us in these growing relationships. We pray for your grace to touch our lives in ways that bring us to life to work with you more effectively. Help each of us to know more clearly who we are and who you are, that all can be proud of being created in your image and trust your presence with us on our life journeys. **Amen.**

YEAR OF THE PRIEST This year dedicated by Pope Benedict as THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST is an opportunity for all of us to think about the priests who have dedicated part of their life to the service of our parish community. Perhaps we did not always see eye to eye with some of them, or lived in constant disagreement or perhaps we forgot that, although Christ's representative at the altar, he was also human. It is more than likely that at some time one of them inspired you, listened to you, was just present when you needed him. Did you ever think to thank him ? During this year it is important to think about his special mission in the parish and world but also ours. Perhaps it may be worth the effort to take time and discover where one of the priests who worked in the parish is now serving others. Perhaps it is the opportunity, for you and him, to drop him a note and ,despite the years gone by, thank him for his efforts and service and for trying to be Jesus to our parish community.



Sunday Mass Times

9.30 am, St. John Vianney's
Alva

11.30 am, St. Bernadette's
Tullibody

6.15 pm, St. John Vianney's
Alva

Newsletter for the Parishes of
St. John Vianney's & St. Bernadette's
13 September 2009

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Website www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes or www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys or **GOOGLE US !!**

Welcome - If you are a visitor to our Parish or have just moved into the area, then please feel very welcome. Introduce yourself to the Parish Priest or welcomers at the back of the church and remember - there are no strangers here only new friends you just haven't yet met.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

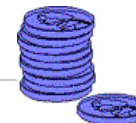
Those who are sick.....

Pat Franchie, Bronia Schultzza, Vera Kaseiewz, Mary McGeehan, Veronica Clarke, Mary Dryland, Jean McCann, Annie Fitzgerald, Patrick Meehan, Annie Russell, Josie Nichols, Robert McInnes, William Norwood, Jan Moffat, Lawrence Allan, Margaret Hamilton, James Cairns, Patricia Smith, James Gallacher and Mary Wilkie.

Remember those who have died recently
Jean Gallacher and Peter Conlan

And those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time..... Catherine Kelly , Bridie Lamb, Owen Downs and Helen McKeon

Parish Finances
2009 Collections



St. John Vianney's, Alva	
6 SEPTEMBER	£451.32
St. Bernadette's, Tullibody	
6 SEPTEMBER	£473.18
Special Collection for Building & Maintenance	
	£734.92

Weekly Diary and Forthcoming Events

Sunday, 13 September 24th Sunday year B	Masses as normal. Racial Justice Sunday 7.30pm - Reception of body of Jean Gallacher, St.John Vianney's
Monday, 14 September	No 9.30am Mass 12.45pm - Funeral mass for Jean Gallacher, St. John Vianney's, Alva 7pm - Communications Team Meeting in Parish House 6pm - Meeting and Registration for Parish children's Catechetics in St.John Vianney's Parish Hall.
Tuesday, 15 September	No Masses 6pm - Disclosure Meeting St. John Vianney's URGENT
Wednesday, 16 Sept	9.30am - Mass , St. Bernadette's, Feast of St. Ninian
Thursday, 17 September	9.30am - Mass , St. Bernadette's, Tullibody 7 pm - Diocesan Annual Vocations Mass, Cathedral, Dundee
Friday, 18 September	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's, Alva. 7pm - Disclosure Meeting St. Bernadette's Hall URGENT
Saturday, 19 September	9.30am - Mass + Confessions, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody.
Sunday, 20 September	Masses as normal
Tuesday 22 nd	7pm - Duke of Edinburgh Award, St.John Vianneys
Wednesday 23 rd	7pm - Planning Liturgy until January 2010, Alva
Thursday 24 th	7pm - Award Winning St.Modens
Sunday 27 September	12.30 - Baptism of Lennon McNeill, St.Bernadette's
28 th Monday	7pm - St.Bernadette's School Council Meeting

BAPTISM Families planning a baptism for December, January and February and even in March please make an appointment with Fr. Mike now.

SECOND COLLECTION This weekend there is a second collection for the Diocesan Fund for Formation to the Priesthood. We have one student just now but this fund goes towards the maintaining of the various places of priestly formation the Scottish Bishops still have and where we send or can send our candidates.

VOCATIONS MASS
7pm Cathedral
Thursday 17th September



Christ was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross (Philippians 2:8)

DISCLOSURE – URGENT Last week in St. Mungo's Parish Hall, there was, as announced over the past few weeks, a meeting regarding the function of disclosure, directed by the Diocesan Team responsible for care of Children and Vulnerable Adults. Not everyone managed to participate in this meeting and this creates a very "delicate" situation in our parish if people want to continue in certain activities. We need a very short meeting but urgently. To facilitate this and be sensitive to people's other many commitments. **Two meetings at two different times and places** have been planned. It does not matter what parish you belong to but if you are: in the SVDP, Eucharistic Minister, work in catechetics, Children's' Liturgy, do any job REGULARLY in the name of the Church that brings you into contact with children, older people, vulnerable adults.

Please be present at one of the meetings and make sure you have obtained and read : "Awareness and safety in Our Catholic Communities, Welcome Guide"
you should already have a copy if not see Fr. Mike or Sisters

Meetings taking place at : St.John Vianney's parish Hall 6 pm Tuesday 15th September
St.Bernadette's Parish hall , 7pm Friday 18th Septemeber

Statement of Affirmation For Racial Justice

Let us affirm together

- WE pledge to examine our own biases and positions of privilege through self reflection and earnestly work to resolve them.
- WE pledge to live by compassion and be consciously inclusive of all people.
- WE pledge to affirm the value of diversity.
- WE pledge to promote understanding, inclusion and mutual respect, and thus build community within all ethnicities and cultures.
- WE pledge to transform our institutions into authentically anti-racist and anti oppressive communities of action.
- WE pledge to advocate for justice, demand equal opportunity for all and so help create a beloved community for everyone to share.

God of all people,

May the things we do, always include everyone

For in the example of Jesus no one was excluded from his circle of life.

Create in us renewed and reinvigorated hearts and minds

That, rooted in your love, our lives may continue to bear fruit

As we live these commitments

In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen



Wednesday 16th ST.NINIAN What evidence and information that can be regarded as genuine is very little about St.Ninian. Even the century he lived is disputed. But generally it is accepted he lived about 290 AD. Although born in Cumbria he studied Christianity in Rome where he was made a bishop. The Pope sent on a mission to the Scots. His main base of work was Whithorn and on the Scottish east coast but he may have worked as far north as the Shetlands.

A big thank you to all who contributed to the second collection last week for the Building Maintenance Fund